

History's Busiest Vice-President Says White House Should Not Saddle Office With Executive Chores

By Frank I. Weller,
Associated Press Staff Writer

Henry Agard Wallace says the White House should not saddle the Vice President with executive chores again. During the days Wallace was called "the busiest V. P. in history" he presided over the Senate, was chairman of the old Supply, Priorities and Allocations Board, the Economic Defense Board, and the Board of Economic Warfare. . . . And performed what he calls "deuces wild" tasks for President Roosevelt.

Not that he is unhappy about it. He looks back, saying:

"I think my services were useful at times. There was an emergency. It caught the President without a ready executive setup in his own shop. Someone had to spring. I was available."

"It's just that I found out no man can handle day-by-day executive stuff and be Vice President, too."

That from one who made the vice presidency live and breathe. . . . "And grunt," Wallace says.

The idea of this interview was to get his opinion on how much weight Vice President should throw around.

Should Mind Own Business

"I think," he said, "that a Vice President should mind his own business unless drafted in an emergency. He has more time on his hands than any one else. Certainly he'll never be another Throthelbottum. He will be the President's deuces wild, a substitute to send abroad when neither the President nor the Secretary of State has time for international conventions."

"This, of course, depends on his ability, interest and working relations with the White House."

Wallace says that in normal times the cabinet and the Budget Bureau should shoulder all domestic responsibilities of a purely executive nature, leaving the Vice President free to fight for administration policies in Congress and on occasion in world parliaments.

Just as he was the first V. P. to hold extra-curricular executive jobs, he was the first to make so many personal appearances here and abroad. He represented Mr. Roosevelt at the inauguration of Mexican President Cárdenas and visited around South America as an ambassador plenipotentiary.

Tasks Were Numerous

He talked winning the war and post-war politics and economics on a presidential mission to Soviet Asia and to China. He learned Spanish and enough Russian to make a speech in Moscow. He tackled Chinese "but couldn't make it."

He made more domestic addresses for the administration than any other V. P. ever did, a great number of them after a fourth term for Mr. Roosevelt after the President agreed to nomination of Harry S. Truman for Wallace's job.

Aside from Wallace . . . and certainly not approaching his record . . . history holds only three other outstanding close associations between the White House and the Vice President.

Jackson relied on Van Buren, largely in a social way. He insisted the party nominate Van Buren as his successor



Vice President Harry S. Truman (at right) and Henry A. Wallace, former Vice President.

—AP Photo.

to defeat the ambitions of Calhoun, whom he despised. Polk gave Dallas some of the Pennsylvania patronage and consulted him on his message on the Oregon boundary question and many other problems. McKinley insisted Hobart live near the White House so he would be handy to keep him in touch with the Senate and do all sorts of odd jobs.

Garner, in the first two Roosevelt administrations, championed a lot of New Deal laws and kept the White House advised of Congress' temper. . . . But he didn't carry the cudgel with the abounding faith Wallace had in what F. D. R. wanted to do.

With the exception of "Cactus Jack," who couldn't even be kicked into a dress suit, Wallace was the Senate's most infrequent gavel-pounder and presidential substitute in Capital society.

He was too busy.

"The traditional Vice President had a reception room, a telephone and secretary to answer it. Wallace had telephones and secretaries and stenographers busy all over the place."

Busy Day and Night

He had conferences from daylight until long after dark with men trying either to cast America in a new mold or trying to yell down every Roosevelt

social, economic and political innovation.

He became the most articulate, consistent and effective champion of the New Deal—philosopher of the "greatest happiness for the greatest number" and "the age of the common man." He wanted to "humanize" capital.

Wallace, whose mind never could be pigeonholed, has no congressional cronies. None knows what he intends to do now . . . and he will not say.

He told me he did not plan any trips abroad . . . so that may let him out as a prospective roving Ambassador for the White House.

He said he did not plan any public appearances here . . . which may let him out as a prospective presidential candidate in 1948.

It's Anybody's Guess

He said, "You can use your own judgment" in guessing whether "I shall be retained in a Government capacity."

Some had thought he would become Secretary of Commerce or Labor. Some think Mr. Roosevelt has a fine surprise up his sleeve for this man who went all out for him in a big way when the going was tough. Some think he has been ditched as a political liability.

Wallace says only that he plans to write a new book on the postwar co-prosperity of America and Soviet Asia. He is a great believer in the postwar co-prosperity of America and Soviet Asia. He

has no idea how many books, articles and speeches he has written on this "age of the common man" since coming to Washington.

"We Shall Not Fail"

He says:

"If we put our trust in the common sense of the common man . . . in the great adventure of making political, economic and social democracy a practical reality, we shall not fail."

He says he is not "worried about the future."

He is more serious and settled now than when I first met him 15 years ago. He still smiles, is shy and searches his own mind in what newsmen have learned is his way of not answering a question until he is dead sure newsprint will do him justice.

He had a bad experience once. He was quoted as saying every child in the world should have a quart of milk each day. Critics said he wanted America to lease-lend it.

He says what he meant was:

"There will be no more wars when every nation is economically able to provide its own children with milk daily . . . when no nation fights another for possession of its riches."

Wallace seems to have something planned on his own hook. He has become a clock watcher and a frowner. He seems impatient to get going on whatever job he has cut out for himself. He says:

"There are millions of folks in this country who feel the way I do."

'Time on Target' Is Theme of Artillery 'Serenade,' A Symphony of Death Scored to Annihilate the Enemy

HEADQUARTERS 12th ARMY GROUP—A serenade of destruction, a symphony of death; Jerry knows and fears them well. In full orchestration they spell annihilation.

Serenade or symphony, they are one and the same. To the artillerymen they are TOT—Time on Target. Simply, when Jerry gets a serenade he gets plastered with tons of artillery shells that rain down on his position at exactly the same time.

A serenade is NOT a barrage. Its effectiveness depends upon surprise. The enemy does not know it is coming. When it comes it is usually too late to do anything about it—too late even to duck.

Is the doughboy being held up by an enemy 88? Call the artillery. Is Jerry grouping in a town or woods to counter-attack? The artillery to the rescue with a serenade.

Here is how one corps in Germany handles the split-second timing, co-ordination between units, and quick plotting and computing that are necessary to lay down a serenade.

Here's How It's Done

Maj. William Fenton, Hancock Point, Me., of the 19th Corps artillery of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's 9th Army, gives an example:

"The other day, near Siersdorf, Germany, an enemy battery was firing on us constantly. We adjusted it in—that is, determined its position and range—through one of our aerial observers flying a Cub plane. Immediately we sent over a couple of volleys—24 rounds—from one battalion of 105-mm. Howitzers.

"Well, that shot up the Jerry battery for a little while, but it did not really take care of him. So we decided to plaster him with a TOT. We massed the fires of 13 batteries—156 guns, including 105-mm., 155-mm., 8-inch, and 240-mm. Howitzers, 155-mm. guns (Long Toms) and 8-inch guns.

"Altogether and at the same instant we threw 13 tons of projectiles on him. We never heard from him again."

The major explained that the TOT principal officer is employed on a smaller scale.

Placing the TOT

"We try to place a TOT on every enemy battery we pick up," he went on. "Ordinarily we adjust our fire on the enemy with two guns to get his range and location accurately. The serenade or TOT may come an hour or two later. You see, when we adjust on the enemy it frightens them into their holes. But after a while Jerry comes out and then we lay a serenade on him—two, four or six batteries, depending upon the ammunition supply."

In the fighting in Germany, where almost every town and village is defended bitterly, the time on target principal is employed almost constantly. Examples were in the taking of Shersdorf, Schleiden and Hogen. Twelve to 15 battalions of both corps and division artillery concentrated their fires on areas within the towns.

Tons of Projectiles

The complex firing data that the men at the guns have before pulling the lanyards that send the tons of projectiles



It takes split-second timing, co-ordination between units and quick plotting and computing to lay down a "serenade."

—A. P. Wirephoto.



ting maps. The first determines the range in yards and amount of shift or deflection necessary to reach the enemy position. The vertical control operator determines the "angle of site," or how high the barrel of the gun must be elevated or depressed so that the projectile will land on Jerry and not in front of him or behind him.

That information is given to the computers. They quickly convert the data into the necessary firing order. But that is not all. They must make corrections for the direction and velocity of the wind, the temperature of the powder, the temperature of the air, and density of the air.

These GIs make all this look simple. They do it not in a matter of minutes, but in seconds. Remember, this is the fire direction center of just one battalion. In serenade firing the fire direction centers of each battalion participating must co-ordinate their fires so that they all land on Jerry at the same time. The range and caliber of the various battalions' guns must be considered, as well as the time of flight of the projectile.

Fire Direction Center

Let's visit the fire direction center of a specific unit. Down in the cellar of what remains of a home in a devastated German town is the command post of the 978th Field Artillery Battalion. A Michigan National Guard outfit, it is commanded by Lt. Col. James C. Wood of 225 North Horton street, Jackson, Mich. It has been in the line continually since it hit the Normandy beach on June 25. Its three batteries of 12 Long Toms—155-mm. guns—have expended well over 33,000 rounds at the enemy, more than 5,000,000 pounds of death and destruction.

The officers and men on duty in the FDC in the midst of battle are listening to a captured German radio tuned in softly to the forces program of the BBC. The telephone jangles and Maj. James A. Hebbler, Huntington, Ind., the gunnery officer, picks up the instrument. It is a call for a fire mission and the battalion will fire with other units in a TOT on a Jerry strong point.

Maj. Hebbler announces the map co-ordinates.

Sgt. Leslie Kludt, Route 9, Kalamazoo, Mich., is the horizontal control operator. Poring over his map he quickly reads the range and deflection of each of the three batteries. Sgt. Harper Dickson, 30 Plummer avenue, Lowell, Mass., the vertical control operator, determines the difference in altitude—or angle of site—for each battery.

Co-ordinated Fire

At the command of Maj. Hebbler each battery of four guns opens up. Forty-five seconds after the computers had received their data the guns are fired.

The battalion's fire is co-ordinated on a corps level for the big serenades. The artillery fire direction center of 19th Corps was located in the basement of a German schoolhouse.

There Lt. Col. Paul C. Bell, 2245 N.W. 20th street, Oklahoma City, Okla., received fire missions and allocated them according to importance and range. Before him was a huge map—the firing chart—on which the position of the guns of each battalion was plotted. A glance at the map, after a request for a fire mission, showed which guns were within range and which guns could be traversed in their dug-in positions to bear upon the target. Another map showed the location of enemy shell hits, plotted with date and time so that the enemy battery situation could be built up with aerial reconnaissance by the counter-battery officer, Maj. William Hodo, of Alexander City, Ala.

Aerial Reconnaissance

Corps artillery relies greatly on aerial reconnaissance by especially trained observers in P-51s, Mustangs. The much slower Cubs would not last long over the German lines.

Corps artillery has one more subdivision unit in its chain of command—the group. Col. Lloyd M. Hanna, 315 Osage street, Leavenworth, Kans., is the commanding officer of the 119th Field Artillery Group, made up of four battalions. Through switchboard connections and radio, Maj. Harry K. Thomson, Cotter, Ark., group gunnery officer, receives a complete picture of the situation from corps, division artillery, infantry regiments, forward and aerial observers, and from counter-battery observation posts. The information is plotted on maps in the group fire direction center, the same as on the corps and battalion levels.

Will Postwar Farmer Flounder in Plenty?

By Ovid A. Martin,
Associated Press Staff Writer

Thoughtful farm leaders wonder whether agriculture after the war may not be like the fabled boy who had a porridge mill which wouldn't stop.

His whole village was choked with porridge.

Agriculture's porridge mill is technology—that is, new and better ways of producing food and fiber crops.

The next 10 years may stand out as an epic of farm mechanization. Warscarce manpower has prodded the inventor to develop new farm tools and improve old ones. Shortage of materials has prevented many of these inventions from being translated into actual machinery, but the makers can be expected to make up for lost time as soon as the war ends.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that farmers would spend more than \$1,000,000,000 for new equipment in 1945 if they could get it. Never was the demand for farm machinery so great.

Mainly the farmer can expect refinements on present implements and on that production-booming source of motive power, the farm tractor.

New Implements Coming

The new implements will be easier for one man to handle. They will weigh less and be stronger, of new war-created materials. They will save labor and power. Many new wrinkles are being kept under wraps by implement companies eager to get the jump on their competitors when production can start.

Some now are in limited use, corn pickers, cotton pickers, combines (small units which harvest and thresh wheat, or oats, barley, rye, soybeans or grass seed in one operation), sugar beet and cane harvesters, mechanical milkers, spreaders which fertilize better, equipment for curing hay in lots and stacks to preserve food values, and a new hay harvester which rakes and bales in a single operation.

New machines are likely to be exploited which will simultaneously till, fertilize and seed the soil with certain crops.

Better Irrigation

Portable sprinkling systems may be expected, to supplement rainfall and surface irrigation and to water rough land where gravity can't handle the job.

Technological studies made by the Department of Agriculture during the war enable more efficient production, use and marketing of farm products. Here are a few examples:

1. Discovery that dehydrated sweet potato meal compares favorably with corn as feed for steers. This should encourage a bigger beef cattle business in sections of the South.

2. Development of ways to raise calves on less milk, leaving more for human consumption.

3. Demonstration that various sulfadiazones show promise in controlling mastitis (which causes severe loss in milk production) and in preventing chickens

from the deadly disease cecal coccidiosis.

4. Cheap prevention of insect damage to wheat stored in farm bins.

5. Release of 35 new varieties of important crop plants.

6. Development of improved and labor-saving cultural practices for growers of rice, sugar beets and beet seeds.

7. Discovery that stimulation with hormones (gland secretions) can even out the seasonal milk production of a herd of milk goats.

New Day Dawning

Farm leaders worry about the future because of the past.

When this country was young, the

farmers of the world used wooden plows, did nearly all their planting and sowing and reaping by hand. In those days it took the surplus production of 19 farmers to feed one person living in the city.

In recent years, 19 persons working on farms have produced enough to feed nearly 70 persons in urban areas.

Agriculture is far from using fully the efficient methods and tools at its disposal, yet here in America it produced 35 per cent more than before the war.

What, ask farm leaders, will happen when upwards of 2,000,000 farmers now in the armed services and in war plants seek to return to the land, and when better tools become available?

Will Women Keep Jobs?

By Adelaide Kerr

Associated Press Staff Writer

Irene Young—wife, mother and aircraft worker—has her own answers to America's biggest woman question: Do women factory workers want to keep their jobs or go back home after the war? Her answers contradict a lot of surveys and questionnaires.

"Most women factory workers want to keep their jobs. I believe; they don't want to go back to the kitchen," so says this aircraft assembly worker in the Rouge River plant of the Ford Motor Co., Detroit, an active member of the Union of Automobile Workers (CIO).

"The UAW recently sent postcard questionnaires to a representative sampling of approximately 350,000 women members, asking them whether they would continue to work outside their homes after the war if jobs were available. One hundred per cent of the widows, 98 per cent of the single women and 68.7 per cent of the married women said 'yes.'"

They Want to Stay

"I'm very active in the union and I've talked to hundreds of women on this question. The majority tell me the same thing—they want to keep on working if a job is available. Of course, if you break it down and ask them if they want to take a job from a soldier, that's different."

Miss Young (Mrs. Tony Marinovich) made her comment during a visit to New York, where she addressed the woman's conference of the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. Asked how she reconciled her comment with the surveys that reported a large percentage of women saying they want to go back home after the war, Miss Young said with a little grin:

"Well, I think a lot of women thought it was proper to say that. Maybe they thought it wouldn't be nice to say they wanted to keep their jobs when there was all this talk about jobs for soldiers. Besides a lot of them thought they meant it. Maybe their feet hurt and they were tired. We all have days like that. I know some days if you asked me, I would say I wanted to go back home and stay there. But what many of those women really wanted was two weeks' rest."

"You might as well get this straight. Women are not in the shop simply for patriotic reasons. They talk patriotism—and they are certainly glad that their work helps patriotically. But they work for the money and for the independence it gives. If they are working only for patriotism why do they insist on top money?"

"I don't like to get up early and come home late and then cook and clean and scrub. But I do it for the things I wouldn't be able to get otherwise."

Dark-eyed, fresh-skinned and attractive, she is the youthful-looking mother of a 21-year-old girl in the WAVES and a 17-year-old son. She says she has always worked hard.

Born in Marion, Ill., the daughter of a miner, she quit school in the seventh grade to housework. At 17 she married young Marinovich, then a coal miner and now employed in the UAW's educational department. When her son was still an infant she went to work in a factory. For the last 15 years she has held a triple job—as factory worker, mother and housewife.

Has Own Home

"Because I have worked we have been able to have a home such as I never could have had otherwise," she said with shining eyes. "It's a six-room brick Colonial house, furnished the way I wanted to furnish a house for years."

"My factory work has really helped me do my housework faster. In the factory by time studies we learn how long it takes to do each operation. You can apply the same thing to housework."

"They talk about how tired women get who work in industry and keep house, too. But you'd be surprised how many women are bored at home. Their outlook on life is so limited. Once they get in the plant, mingling with other women and talking with them on a lot of different subjects, they just don't want to break it up. At first some of them can't hold a conversation for 10 minutes. But after they have been working awhile and mingling with other women they brighten up till you wouldn't know them. They know what it has done for them, too."



Artillery fire caused this damage to Gressenich, Germany. American troops and a tank are shown moving through its wreckage-strewn street.

—A. P. Wirephoto.